

**In the Claims**

1           1. [Currently Amended] A laser scanning apparatus comprising:  
2           a light source configured to generate a single light beam;  
3           a scanning device optically coupled with the light source and configured  
4 to scan the light beam along a photoconductor in a plurality of scan lines; and  
5           a start-of-scan detector assembly configured to sample the single light  
6 beam and initiate a start-of-scan operation of one of the scan lines of  
7 information to be written on the photoconductor, and wherein only the sampled  
8 single light beam is used to control a drive level of the light source.

1           2. [Original] The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
2           a control system configured to receive a signal from the detector  
3 assembly and to control the drive level of the light source based on the signal.

1           3. [Currently Amended] The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the control  
2 system comprises processing circuitry configured to compare an indication of  
3 the sampled single light beam from the signal with a predetermined value.

1           4. [Original] The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the control system is  
2 configured to maintain the drive level of the light source at a predetermined drive  
3 level during scanning of the one scan line.

1           5. [Original] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the light source  
2 comprises a vertical cavity surface emitting laser diode (VCSEL).

1           6. [Original] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the light beam is sampled  
2 only once per scan line of information written on the photoconductor, and the  
3 light beam is sampled prior to writing the scan line of information on the  
4 photoconductor.

1        7. [Original] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the scanning device  
2 comprises a rotating polygon mirror.

1        8. [Original] The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the start-of-scan detector  
2 assembly is disposed outside of a scan area of the photoconductor.

1        9. [Previously Presented] A laser scanning apparatus comprising:  
2 a rotating scanning device configured to scan a light beam from a light  
3 source;  
4 a photodetector optically coupled with the rotating scanning device and  
5 configured to sample the light beam from the rotating scanning device;  
6 a control system configured to receive an indication of the sampled light  
7 beam from the photodetector and to control a drive level of the light source  
8 responsive to the indication of the sampled light; and  
9 wherein the control system is configured to maintain the light source at a  
10 constant drive level during scanning of a single line of information on the  
11 photoconductor.

1        10. [Original] The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the light source is  
2 configured to emit light in a single direction.

1        11. [Original] The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the light source  
2 comprises a vertical cavity surface emission laser diode (VCSEL).

1        12. [Original] The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the control system  
2 comprises processing circuitry configured to compare an indication of the  
3 sampled light beam with a predetermined drive level value, and to control the  
4 drive level of the light source based on the comparison.

1        13. [Canceled]

1           14. [Currently Amended] A laser scanning apparatus comprising:  
2           a laser configured to generate a single light beam;  
3           a scanning device configured to scan the light beam from the laser;  
4           a photodetector optically coupled with the scanning device and  
5           configured to sample the light beam only once per line of information scanned  
6           onto a photoconductor; and  
7           a control system configured to receive an indication of the sampled single  
8           light beam from the photodetector and to maintain a drive level of the laser at a  
9           constant drive level during scanning of the line of information onto the  
10          photoconductor using the indication of the sampled single light beam.

1           15. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the laser  
2           is configured to emit a light beam in a single direction.

1           16. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the  
2           photodetector is utilized to initiate a start of scan operation of the line of  
3           information.

1           17. [Original] The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the sampled light  
2           beam is obtained before scanning a line of information onto the photoconductor.

1           18. [Currently Amended] A laser scanning apparatus comprising:  
2           means for generating a single light beam;  
3           means for scanning the light beam onto a photoconductor;  
4           means for sampling the single light beam which causes information to be  
5           scanned onto the photoconductor; and  
6           means for receiving an indication of the sampled single light beam from  
7           the means for sampling and for maintaining the means for generating at a  
8           constant drive level using the indication of the sampled single light beam and  
9           during scanning of the line of information onto the photoconductor.

1           19. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the  
2           means for generating comprises a laser.

1           20. [Original] The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the light beam is  
2           sampled before writing a scan line of information onto the photoconductor.

1           21. [Original] The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the means for sampling  
2           is disposed outside of a scan area of the photoconductor.

1           22. [Currently Amended] A laser scanning method comprising:  
2           generating a single light beam using a light source;  
3           providing a rotating scanning device and a photoconductor;  
4           scanning the light beam along the photoconductor using the rotating  
5           scanning device;  
6           sampling only the single light beam from the rotating scanning device  
7           using a sampling assembly; and  
8           controlling the light source only using the ~~sampled light beam~~ sampling of  
9           only the single light beam.

1           23. [Original] The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
2           initiating writing of a scan line of information onto the photoconductor  
3           using the sampling assembly.

1           24. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 22, wherein the  
2           controlling comprises:  
3           receiving the sampled light beam in a control system;  
4           comparing an indication of the sampled light beam with a predetermined  
5           drive level value; and  
6           wherein the controlling comprises controlling a drive level of the light  
7           source responsive to the comparison.

1           25. [Original] The method of claim 22, further comprising:  
2           maintaining an output power of the light source at a constant level during  
3           writing of a single scan line of information onto the photoconductor.

1           26. [Original] The method of claim 22, wherein the light source  
2 comprises a vertical cavity surface emitting laser diode (VCSEL).

1           27. [Original] The method of claim 22, wherein the sampling is  
2 performed only once per scan line of information written on the photoconductor  
3 and prior to writing the scan line of information on the photoconductor.

1           28. [Original] The method of claim 22, wherein the sampling assembly is  
2 located outside of a scan area of the photoconductor.

1           29. [Currently Amended] A hard imaging device comprising:  
2 a photoconductor;  
3 a laser scanning apparatus configured to write scan lines of information  
4 onto the photoconductor, the laser scanning apparatus comprising:  
5 a laser configured to generate a single light beam;  
6 a scanning device optically coupled with the laser and configured  
7 to scan the light beam along the photoconductor to form the scan lines;  
8 a sampling assembly configured to sample the light beam and to  
9 generate a signal indicative of the sampling of the single light beam; and  
10 a control system configured to control an intensity of the light  
11 beam generated by the laser responsive to the ~~sampled~~ signal indicative of the  
12 sampling of the single light beam; and  
13 an image engine configured to form hard images from the written scan  
14 lines using media.

1           30. [Currently Amended] The device of claim 29, wherein the control  
2 system is configured to receive ~~[[a]] the signal from the sampling assembly~~  
3 ~~corresponding to~~ indicative of only the sampling of only the single sampled light  
4 beam and to control a drive level of the light source based entirely on the  
5 received signal.

1           31. [Currently Amended] An article of manufacture comprising:  
2           processor-usable media comprising programming configured to cause  
3 processing circuitry to:  
4           output a control signal to control a light source configured to  
5 generate a single light beam used to scan a plurality of scan lines of information  
6 onto a photoconductor;  
7           access an output of a start-of-scan detector assembly ~~generated~~  
8 ~~responsive to detection of~~ which is indicative of only the single light beam  
9 ~~thereby~~, wherein the output indicates appropriate timing for initiation of writing  
10 of the information for the respective scan lines;  
11           process the output of the start-of-scan detector assembly; and  
12           adjust the control signal responsive to the processing of the output  
13 to adjust an intensity of the light beam generated by the light source.

1           32. [Original] The article of manufacture of claim 31, wherein the  
2 programming is further configured to cause the processing circuitry to adjust the  
3 control signal to provide the light beam having a substantially constant intensity  
4 during the scanning of the scan lines.

1           33. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the light  
2 source comprises a laser configured to generate the light beam.

1           34. [Currently Amended] The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the laser  
2 is configured to generate all of the photons ~~of the light beam~~ which ~~[[is]]~~ are  
3 sampled by the detector assembly.

1           35. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 33 wherein the laser  
2 is configured to generate the light beam void of any light received by the laser.

1           36. [Currently Amended] The apparatus of claim 33 further comprising  
2 a control system configured to provide a control signal to control the drive level  
3 of the laser during the generation of the light beam, and wherein the control  
4 system is configured to vary the control signal responsive to the sampled single

5 light beam.

1           37. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the light  
2 source is configured to generate an entirety of the light beam for the first time,  
3 and wherein the light beam is void of any other light generated by a source  
4 different than the light source.

1           38. [Previously Presented] The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising  
2 the light source comprising a laser configured to generate the light beam.

1           39. [Canceled]

1           40. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 22 wherein the  
2 generating comprises generating using the light source comprising a laser, and  
3 the controlling comprises controlling the laser ~~using the sampled light beam.~~

1           41. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 22 wherein the  
2 generating comprises generating all light of the light beam using the light source.

1           42. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 22 wherein the  
2 controlling comprises:  
3           applying a control signal to control the light source; and  
4           varying the control signal responsive to only the ~~sampled~~ sampling of only  
5 the single light beam.

1           43. [Currently Amended] The method of claim ~~[[43]]~~ 42 wherein the  
2 varying comprises varying to control the light source to generate the light beam  
3 having a substantially constant intensity.

1           44. [Previously Presented] The device of claim 29 wherein the  
2 sampling assembly is configured to initiate start-of-scan operations to write the  
3 scan lines onto the photoconductor.

1           45. [New] The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising the light  
2 source, and wherein the light source is configured to only generate the light  
3 beam comprising only a single light beam, the photodetector is configured to  
4 sample the single light beam and to provide the indication of only the sampled  
5 single light beam, and the control system is configured to control the drive level  
6 of the light source only using the indication of only the sampled single light  
7 beam.

1           46. [New] The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the photodetector is  
2 configured to provide the indication of only the sampled single light beam, and  
3 the control system is configured to maintain the drive level of the laser at the  
4 constant drive level only using the indication of only the sampled single light  
5 beam.

1           47. [New] The method of claim 18 wherein the means for sampling  
2 comprises means for providing the indication of only the sampled single light  
3 beam and the means for maintaining comprises means for maintaining the means  
4 for generating at the constant drive level only using the indication of only the  
5 sampled single light beam.